

Frank A. Bolden of Berkeley Heights, vice chair of the Board of Trustees of Union County College (l), former Plainfield Mayor Frank H. Blatz, Jr., chair of the UCC trustee board (c), and Dr. Thomas H. Brown, UCC president, (r) unveil plaque marking Dedication Ceremonies on May 3 for the College's new Plainfield campus.

Newark Community School of the Arts celebrates 25th anniversary

NEWARK-The Newark Community School of the Arts (NCSA) will present its 25th annual concert on Sunday, May 23 at 3 p.m. in Newark Symphony Hall, 1030 Broad Street.

NCSA is a community-based, student-centered, organization committed to providing access to sequential, comprehensive arts education and quality performances to people of all ages, regardless of their financial need. The school's anniversary concert will feature dance and music performances by students currently studying at the school, as well as performances by NCSA faculty members. An exhibit of art works by students in the visual arts division will be displayed in the lobby.

As part of their silver anniversary celebration, NCSA has launched the "Where are our Children?" project. The goal of the project is to locate everyone who has ever been a part of the school. All

former students, faculty, staff and trustees are encouraged to contact the school so that they can participate in the year-long celebration. Alumni are especially encouraged to attend the May 23rd concert where they will be honored.

The impetus for the Newark Community School of the Arts began after the 1967 Newark riots when two school teachers, Stella Lass and Saunders Davis, recognized the need for a quality arts educational institution that would be accessible to the community's desire for access to the arts. The school was incorporated as the Newark Community Center of the Arts in 1968 and changed its name to the Newark Community School of the Arts in 1980.

Over the past 25 years, NCSA has fostered and encouraged more than 25,000 students. It was the recipient of the first Governor's Arts Award in the "Arts in Education" category in 1986 and was the

first New Jersey organization to receive a challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, which praised the school as "a model program unique in the United States."

Recently, NCSA was one of nine community schools of the arts chosen to share \$2.17 million from the Lita Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund as part of a nationwide effort to increase the quality of, and accessibility to, arts education in local communities. NCSA will use its three-year grant to develop an both a new faculty performance series and an extensive professional development initiative that includes more continuing education opportunities for the teaching staff.

Tickets to the concert are available from the school, which is located at 89 Lincoln Park. For more information about the concert or other Silver Anniversary events, call 201-64-0133.



The Links, Inc. Conference

Pictured (l-r) at the 32nd Eastern Area Conference of The Links, Inc. are Marion S. Sutherland, National President of The Links, Inc.; Barbara Dixon Simpkins, Eastern Area Director; Cynthia Moore, Corporate Affairs Northeast Regional Manager of Anheuser-Busch; and Gayle Thigpen-Allen, member of the Raritan Valley chapter. The conference was held in Richmond, Va.

Educators plan West Africa tour

MORRIS COUNTY—Once known as the "Gold Coast," Ghana is one of the three West African countries included in an upcoming tour sponsored by a group of Morris County educators.

After an extended stay in Accra, capital of Ghana, tour participants will sightsee in Abidjan, the Ivory Coast, for a few days. The final portion of their trip will be spent in Cotonou, Benin.

Tours of cultural, historical, and educational sites will highlight each country's visit. Participants have the option of requesting customized tours and activities, in addition to, or in lieu of, the trip's standard itinerary.

The group will depart on August 8, by air from New York. The return date is August 23. The price of the tour includes round trip airfare, baggage handling, hotel accommodations in each country, sightseeing tours, and miscellaneous taxes, service charges, and fees. Two plans are available - with meals included, or without meals.

Deposits are acceptable immediately. Payments may be made either in installments, or in a lump sum. All payments are due by June 1. Call 201-

963-4090, 201-822-1288, or 908-353-6490 for details.

Coping

By Dr. Charles W. Faulkner

A quick way to get rid of your stress

This is the first of a series of ideas that will help you to deal with your stress. The first thing that I will do is show you how to get stress out of your system, immediately. Then, I'll give you some tips to show you how to keep it out.

If you feel tense, nervous and full of stress, at this very moment, do the following:

1. Stand up, with your arms at your side, and your feet together. Now rise up on your toes. If you have trouble keeping your balance, lean against a table or a wall.
2. While you are on your toes, raise both arms up over your head. Straighten your elbows. Point your hands to the ceiling. Keep your hands about six inches apart.
3. At this time, you should be up on your toes and both arms should be raised up over your head.
4. Hold the above position and "scrunch" your neck down, so that you feel a tightening of your neck muscles and tightness of the muscles that run along the top of your shoulder, just below the neck. You should now feel a tightness in your leg muscles (resulting from standing on your toes), as well as a tightening of your neck muscles and the muscles at the top of your shoulder. These muscles collect a lot of stress, so squeeze the stress out of them.

5. Finally, while you are on your toes, and while your arms are raised above your head, take a slow, deep breath. Completely fill your lungs with air. Breathe in, slowly. When your lungs are full of air, hold your breath and count from one to five.
6. When you reach the count of five, slowly exhale and, at the same time, slowly lower your arms, and slowly lower yourself from the tiptoe position.

7. Let's review - (The whole procedure should take no more than one minute). It goes like this: Simultaneously, raise up on your toes and raise your arms above your head. Hold this position while you take a slow, deep breath. Hold your breath and count to five. Now, again simultaneously, exhale slowly, lower your arms slowly and lower yourself from your toes slowly. Repeat this entire procedure five, consecutive times. In less than five minutes, you can get rid of all of the stress, strain, tension and nervousness in your body.

If you have a lot of stress, do this procedure at least once an hour. More often, if you wish. Do it before job interviews, before speeches, before tests, before anything you think will make you nervous. Soon, your body will maintain a stress-free condition, always. Teach this procedure to your friends, family and neighbors. Use this procedure before you go to bed, use it when you have a headache. Remember, practice at least once an hour, everyday, for three solid weeks, and become a new person.

Caution: It is always wise to obtain a doctor's advice before beginning something new. If you are in normal health, you will obtain immediate benefits. If you have not stretched your muscles in years, you must begin slowly and carefully so as not to pull a muscle. Eventually, your muscles will loosen up. Breathe slowly. Stretch your muscles slowly. Now get rid of that stress!

Happy 10th Anniversary City News!!!

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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY LENDER

Public Hearings on Newark Board of Ed

NEWARK—There will be a series of public hearings on a proposal giving Mayor Sharpe James and the City Council the authority to make some appointments to the Newark Board of Education.

Residents can voice their opinions about the school board at the first forum, scheduled for Thursday, May 20 at the George Washington Carver Elementary School.

The hearings will run from now until late July in every ward in the city. Those who wish to speak must register in the City Clerk's Office prior to the meetings.

For details, call 201-733-3844.

Bishop Desmond Tutu to speak at Ramapo

MAHWAH-The Most Reverend Desmond M. Tutu, the Archbishop of Cape Town, will present a lecture on community service and receive an honorary degree at Ramapo College of New Jersey on Tuesday, May 25. The ceremonies will commence at 5 p.m. in Friends Hall.

"I want to honor Bishop Tutu not only for his leadership in humanitarian efforts, but also because he is a model human being," said Ramapo College President Robert A. Scott. "He represents our goals for a liberal education, including the use of language and reasoning, respect for knowledge, and the understanding of other people."

Bishop Tutu is one of the most

deceased world figures in modern times. He has been bestowed with nearly three dozen honorary degrees from institutions around the world. He has also won a variety of awards, including the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984 and, most recently, the Albert Schweitzer Humanitarian Award from Emmanuel College in Boston in 1988.

Other religious/political positions Bishop Tutu has held include Dean of Johannesburg, Bishop of Lesotho, General Secretary, South African Council of Churches, and Bishop of Johannesburg. He assumed his current role in 1986.

For additional details, please contact the Ramapo College Office of Public Relations at 201-529-7602.



Employee Negotiations Settled

Essex County Executive Tom D'Alessio (c) is joined by Joseph Sette, Assistant Business Manager for International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1158, and Joseph Calabro, the Assistant Administrator of Funds and Business Manager. The settlement for the 1,000-member union calls for raises of 4%, 4%, and 5% from 1993 to 1995. Co-payments for more costly medical prescriptions are increased for employees, and second surgical opinions are required to ensure better care, and to reduce unnecessary procedures.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY, MAY 13

JERSEY CITY-Jersey City State College will hold its 7th Annual "Salute to Graduating Seniors of African Heritage" program. Sharon Giles-Alexander is the guest speaker at 6 p.m. in the North Lounge of the Michael Gilligan Student Union Building, 2038 Kennedy Blvd., for information call Barbara Johnson-Young 201-200-3234.

EDISON-NAACP general Branch meeting will feature Rutgers University Professor Deborah Gray White, historian and author. The meetings are held every second Thursday at the Edison Job Corp. For information call 908-549-7936.

FRIDAY, MAY 14 THRU MAY 23

NEWARK-From the Mississippi Delta, a play sponsored by the International Black Congress, is scheduled for six performances at the Newark Symphony Hall. For more information call RBWC at 201-926-0750.

PLAINFIELD-ACT IV theater company presents "Evening," on Friday and Saturday evenings, May 14 thru May 22 at 8 p.m. on stage at the Unitarian Society, 724 Park Ave. Tickets \$20.00-\$30.00, for

information call 908-232-3514.

PLAINFIELD-Shaolin Martial Arts School, located at 820 Second Place, will begin offering a 6 week Women's Kung Fu Self Defense class, must be 16 yrs. or older. Fee \$25.00, 11a.m. to 12:30p.m. For information call 908-561-5130.

SATURDAY, MAY 15

NEWARK-The Ric Charles Choral Ensemble presents its Spring concert "For the Beauty of The Earth," at 18:00. Calvary Baptist Church Newark, performance time 7:30 a.m., donation \$10.00.

PLAINFIELD-Plainfield Community Youth Choir will perform in concert at Grace Episcopal Church, Plainfield at 7 p.m. for information call 908-499-8226.

RAHWAY-The "Celebration Singers" will perform in concert at the Union County Arts Center, at 8 p.m. For information call 908-499-8226.

SUNDAY, MAY 16

NEWARK-New Jersey Historical Society will hold their major fundraiser Spring 1993 at the Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn, NJ with the performance of My Fair Lady at 3:00 p.m. For information

call 201-483-3939.

SUMMIT-The Calvary Choral will perform in concert at the Calvary Church, n. Donilon, for information call 908-277-1814.

PLAINFIELD-The Crescent Singers will perform "From Byrd to Britten" at the United Methodist Church, Plainfield at 4 p.m., \$9.00 & \$5.00. For information call 908-756-2468.

MONDAY, MAY 17

ELIZABETH-Union Public Library will host a panel discussion on Cultural Diversity and The Arts Community, featuring Abel Lopez, Chairman of the Washington DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities. The meeting will be held in the 2nd floor meeting room, Fibiger Park, Union, NJ.

TUESDAY, MAY 18

IRVINGTON-The Annual Senior Health Fair will be held at the 524 Nye Avenue Community Room, from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. All seniors are welcome, come have free Oral Cancer screening, free Vision test, and much more free exams offered. Contact for information the office Senior Health.

National News at a glance

By Robert N. Taylor

'MOVE' SURVIVOR CRITICAL OF FBI ASSAULT ON KORESH CULT: Ramona Johnson Africa—the only adult to survive the 1985 police assault on the black militant group known as the Peoples Temple, which charged recently that the FBI was "wrong" to attack the Branch Davidians' compound of cult leader David Koresh. That attack on the temple and toxic gas left 86 people dead, including 21 children. Government leaders say Koresh's followers started the fire in the compound near Waco, Texas as part of a mass suicide. But Ramona Africa cautioned "do not believe the official version of what happened. They should have left those people alone. While I, and my family, did not expect the situation to end like this, we are certainly not surprised." Africa was the only adult to live through the 1985 police bombing of MOVE headquarters in Philadelphia. The bombing left six adults and five children dead. It also triggered a fire which destroyed dozens of homes and left 250 people homeless. According to Africa, the United States has a long history of "destroying" non-traditional and cult groups. Leaders of Koresh's followers were black. — PHILADELPHIA, PA.

BLACK N.C. DISTRICT AT THE CENTER OF SUPREME COURT CASE: North Carolina's predominantly black 121st Congressional District was drawn up specifically to increase the likelihood that a black would be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. State authorities drew up the district under a federal court order based on the 1990 census. But in April, the entire legal concept of drawing up such districts was challenged in the U.S. Supreme Court. The lawyer for five North Carolina whites argued "the constitution is supposed to be color blind." Robinson Everett also suggested that such districts discriminate against whites. Previously (in a 1977 case), the high court ruled that such districts could be drawn up in order to comply with the Voting Rights Act. But, now the Supreme Court is more conservative and some observers believe it may reverse itself. Before redistricting, North Carolina had never elected a black to Congress, but after the map was redrawn, two blacks were elected. Overall, the number of black and minority congressional districts throughout the nation has doubled because of such redistricting. It may be early fall before the Court issues a ruling in the case. — WASHINGTON, DC.

CORETTA KING FIGHTS FOR HUSBAND'S PAPERS: The battle between Coretta King and Boston University over possession of personal papers of slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., entered the court room recently. Lawyers for Mrs. King argue that her husband's papers should be deposited in Atlanta at her Martin Luther King Center for the National Social Change. But Boston University attorneys argue that the fact that Dr. King shipped the 83,000 documents to the university in 1964 and 1965 shows his intent for the university to house them. King was awarded a doctorate in theology from Boston University in 1965. He was assassinated in 1968. — BOSTON, MA.

RAINS SAVE SECTIONS OF AFRICA FROM FAMINE, SUDAN AIRLIFTED: After suffering through the worst drought in over 100 years, the rains began falling in southern and eastern Africa several weeks ago. Now experts are projecting a new disaster will be averted. According to the Southern African Development Community, an association of 10 countries—the region is expected to more than double its cereal and grain production this year. The greatest exception is Sudan, where drought and civil war have brought about famine and starvation greater than that which gripped Somalia for nearly two years. Meanwhile, the brightest star in the region is Zimbabwe, whose leader is Robert Mugabe, a pragmatic socialist. That country, it is generally agreed, has coped with the effect of drought better than most African countries. — HARARE, ZIMBABWE.

'JEWISH CONSPIRACY' PROFESSOR FIGHTS FOR JOB: Dr. Leonard Jeffries, the City College of New York professor who created a controversy by charging there was a "Jewish conspiracy against blacks," was in court recently fighting to reverse his ousting as chairman of the black studies department. Jeffries gave his controversial speech in the summer of 1991. He also charged that Jews and Italians in Hollywood "planned and plotted" to reflect negative images of blacks in films. The trustees stripped him of his chairmanship in March of 1992, charging poor leadership. But, Jeffries testified that he was ousted because the university was trying to crush his freedom of speech. Jeffries is seeking reinstatement and \$25 million. A court decision is expected at any time. — NEW YORK, NY.

Blacks rate Clinton's first 100 days

by William Reed

Black Americans characterize President Bill Clinton's first 100 days in office as ones of "positive outreach."

Despite the president's flip flops on the foreign policy issue of most importance to blacks—allowing the Haitian boat people safe haven here—overall African Americans are more concerned about domestic issues. They are "pleased" and "optimistic" about what they've been receiving from Clinton in this area. Most blacks agree that a higher degree of respect and concern is being shown them by the Clinton White House, as opposed to the previous administrations.

Clinton gets high marks from the African-American community for the access that blacks have been afforded by Clinton and his agency heads; his efforts to fund summer jobs for urban youth; and the number of African Americans he named to high-level positions in the administration. Although Clinton's current national job approval rating is only at 55 percent, the lowest 100-day rating of any elected president since Dwight Eisenhower, he still receives comments of praise from blacks.

"He sure has been much more accessible to us than George Bush," states Leonard Green, editor of Washington's "Capital Spotlight,"

"At least he puts his money where his mouth is," says Brent Williams, editor of the Minneapolis/St. Paul "Insight News." "In regards to Clinton's outreach to blacks."

Examples of Clinton's outreach are shown in the number of meetings he has held with African-American groups such as leaders of the Black Press of America, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, NAACP, Urban League, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference

(SCLC) and others. For instance, heads of black organizations, such as Joseph Lowery of SCLC, have met with the president to voice their concerns about the inequity and lack of justice still in the nation. Clinton's record of meeting with blacks almost exceeds those of Presidents Bush and Reagan combined, in just 100 days.

President Clinton sought to gain 500,000 jobs for the hordes of jobless urban youth in his Economic Stimulus Package. Republican senators shot

that package down. Black business people and organizational heads report that they have also had much more access inside federal agencies for contracts and supplier opportunities.

The area in which Clinton gets the most praise among blacks is in the number of African-American appointments he's made.

Until Clinton's administration, only one black in the cabinet has been the tradition since the days of President Kennedy. President Clinton has

appointed five African Americans to cabinet-level positions.

"He failed to bite the bullet on Haiti and gays in the military, but I have to give him high marks for the number of blacks in his cabinet," states Mike Williams, editor of the St. Louis Sentinel.

Although the White House has been slow in staffing other appointment positions, reports indicate that fully 20 percent of these appointments were African American.

African-American stars gather for TransAfrica's gala weekend

by Gwen McKinney

WASHINGTON, DC—The arena of social consciousness and political commitment has often provided a common gathering place for the various elements of the African-American community. Such is the case with "African World Together," the star-studded weekend planned for the opening and dedication of the new home for TransAfrica, the nation's preeminent African-American foreign policy, think tank and lobby.

One June 4 and 5, NBC's "Today Show" host, Bryant Gumbel, along with actors Alfre Woodard and Blair Underwood, Congressional Black Caucus Chairman Kweisi Mfume (D-MD), the Rev. Jesse Jackson, Somali-born supermodel Iman, U.S. Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown, and a host of dignitaries hailing from the entertainment, social and political realms—will be on hand to participate in the various events which will mark this milestone in the history of TransAfrica.

"It is only fitting that this occasion bring together a diverse group of individuals of Africa decent," says Randall Robinson, executive director of TransAfrica. "There is no sector of our community, here or abroad, that is exempt from the harsh realities of political repression and social injustice. Our new home will truly represent a universal meeting point where we all, regardless of background, can bring something of value to the table."

The newly purchased and renovated facility, situated prominently along Washington's prestigious "Embassy Row," will house the Arthur R. Ashe, Jr. Foreign Policy Library and Resource Center, dedicated to the late tennis great who had established himself as one of the world's leading symbols for the cause of freedom and justice.

"African World Together" offers us an opportunity to draw on the collective strength of the African-American community as we recommit ourselves to the continuing struggle for the human

rights and democratic freedoms in developing nations throughout the diaspora," says Robinson.

TransAfrica Weekend will begin Friday, June 4, with the TransAfrica Forum Foreign Policy Conference in which key issues will be examined by leading scholars, politicians and activists. The Rev. Jesse Jackson will present the keynote address.

The festivities will culminate on Saturday, June 5, when Woodard and Underwood host the Sixteenth Annual TransAfrica Dinner, which will honor Gumbel, former Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley, international lawyer and human rights activist Goler T. Butler, an African-American superstar. The dinner, established to honor outstanding achievement in human rights and activism that advance the cause of liberation in the black world, will feature Secretary Brown as the evening's speaker. Special guests will include Congressman Mfume and Governor Wilder.

The weekend's events are open to the public. TransAfrica can be contacted at 202-547-2550.

Pathmark Some available at Pathmark Supermarkets and Pharmacy. Prices effective May 12, 1993.	Bausch & Lomb Saline Spray 12 oz. cont. \$5.99	Lanacane Cream 2 oz. tube \$6.99	Lanacane Cream 1 oz. tube \$3.99	Lanacort Cream 1 oz. tube \$3.29	Lanacort 10 Maximum Strength 1 oz. tube \$3.39	Rembrandt Renewal Denture Gel 2.5 oz. cont. \$8.99
Rembrandt Denture Whitener Renewal 5 oz. cont. \$11.99	Chap Stick Petroleum Jelly Plus 0.35 oz. tube \$1.79	Chap Stick 0.5 oz. tube \$1.29	Chap Stick Medicated Stick 0.5 oz. \$1.39	Chap Stick Medicated Tube 0.35 oz. \$1.79	Murine Ear Wax System 0.5 oz. cont. \$8.29	Murine Ear Refill 0.5 oz. cont. \$6.89
Alcon Flex Care 12 oz. cont. \$8.59	Alcon Opti-Zyme Cleaner 8 oz. cont. \$10.59	Alcon Tears Naturale II 0.5 oz. cont. \$8.69	Visine Original Formula 1 oz. cont. \$3.69	Visine A.C. 1 oz. cont. \$3.99	Visine Extra 1 oz. cont. \$3.99	Visine L.R. 1 oz. cont. \$3.99
Ocu Clear 0.5 oz. cont. \$4.29	Mylan Gelcaps 24 ct. \$3.49	Motrin IB Tablets 100 ct. box \$9.49	Motrin IB Caplets 100 ct. box \$9.49	Maalox HRF Liquid 12 oz. bottle \$8.59	Maalox Plus Tablets Extra Strength 36 ct. box \$4.69	Maalox Plus Tablets Extra Strength 36 ct. box \$4.19
Maalox Plus Tablets Cont. of 30 \$4.19	Maalox HRF Tablets 30 ct. box \$4.19	Tylenol Gelcaps Extra Strength 100 ct. box \$8.79	De Vilbiss Vaporizer #8003, 3 gallon capacity \$12.99	De Vilbiss Humidifier #27000, 3 gallon capacity \$19.99	Johnson's Foot Soap Box of 8 \$3.59	Johnson's Foot Soap Box of 4 \$2.39
Tylenol Junior Strength Chewable Tablets Box of 24 \$5.29	Cortizone 10 Scalp Itch Formula 1.5 oz. bottle \$5.59	Salon Formula Shampoo 20 oz. bottle \$1.69	California Shine Conditioner 12 oz. bottle \$2.49	California Shine Spritz 7.5 oz. cont. \$2.49	Shine Gel Spray or Mega Gel California 7.5 oz. cont. \$2.49	Great Looking Gray Treatment 5 oz. cont. \$6.49
Great Looking Gray Shampoo 6 oz. bottle \$4.59	Scalpicin 2.5 oz. bottle \$8.99	Robitussin Night Relief 10 ct. box \$5.49	Esoterica 2 oz. cont. \$7.99	Desitin Ointment 2 oz. tube \$3.49	Desitin Ointment 4 oz. tube \$5.29	Desitin Ointment 16 oz. tube \$11.99

EDITORIAL

The Message in the Music

Rev. Calvin Butts, pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York and civil rights activist, has spoken out recently about the music that young people listen to today. Rev. Butts makes these statements during a time when taking such an action is tantamount to heresy. These are strange times, that have borne the rise of racial hatred, the denigration of women, the increase of violence and the attitude that anything goes. All this and more comes through loud and clear in the music of today's generation.

"We just asking about our conditions" is the rationale for such lyrics. As if words were not enough, we are squarely in the video age which complements thoroughly the bleak and degenerate picture of life in the 90s.

There was a time when music brought joy and uplifting, even during the era of the Temptations and Supremes, the Jacksons, and Aretha when segregation was at its peak. Songs used to speak of love... not it's sex, friendship... now killing, women and men... now homes and whores.

Songs used to inspire people to do better, to keep on pushing. Songs used to tell of young men who said "I've got sunshine on a cloudy day" referring to their girl.

We applaud Rev. Butts for taking such a bold stand bringing to light what many, particularly African-Americans, have refused to address—the decline of our culture and the acceptance of attitude and actions that do nothing but debase and denigrate people as a whole.

Take time to listen to the music and watch the music videos on television. Are these the types images and messages you want your children to hear, see or emulate?

Although we don't advocate censorship, we do advocate developing habits that help our youth grow and mature into responsible adults.

We would like to see Warner, MCA, and other major labels that are actually the parent companies for the many rap labels we hear today, act responsibly in producing those images and songs that pervade our children's waking hours.

Most importantly, we would like to see parents and other adults carefully screen what is presented to these impressionable young minds. Just as we sang "My Girl" hopefully this generation will have more to sing than "All I want is a Gangsta...itch."



by Connie Woodruff

I was trapped indoors by a flu bug last week and forced to miss the celebration of Carole A. Graves, 25 years as president of the Newark Teachers Union, AFL-CIO.

I regret that. As one who had worked with Carole from the beginning of her presidency, and watched her grow from an idealistic, fledgling trade unionist to a professional in her field, I wanted to publicly express the gratitude of black women who developed careers in trade unionism because of her work.

When Carole Graves took over the helm of the Newark Teachers Union in 1968, little did she or any of us know we were seeing history in the making. Until then, few blacks were affiliated with the local group, and fewer still would admit to holding a union card.

In those days, the City of Newark had a reputation for being "anti-union" and the conventional wisdom was that union members were the equivalent of communists, mostly because the NTU had spoken out vigorously and strongly against attacks on writers, Hollywood actors and the antics of Senator Joseph McCarthy, on of the greatest union busters of his day.

Undaunted by the overwhelming anti-union sentiment in the city, low teacher morale, a steadily deteriorating school system and a racially divided community, Carole Graves became the first black president of the Newark Teachers Union.

Her first major challenge was to win a collective bargaining election to establish NTU as the collective bargaining agent for Newark teachers.

When Grave and NTU clashed head-on with Newark's new mayor and his appointed Board of Education in 1970, the union was forced to strike for three weeks before gaining a landmark contract that won concessions Newark teachers had never had.

Just the same as traditional insurance, because their administrative costs are comparable. So we give our right to choose our own provider to our employer or insurance company with little or no cost savings.

So, we all agree we have to perform major surgery on our health care system, right?

Wrong. The insurance industry, the health care industries (like pharmaceutical companies) and the organized medical provider groups don't want to change the system because it is so profitable for them. As public pressure and unhappiness is forcing the government to give us a new national health care system, the health-care-for-profit powerhouses are trying to avoid major changes by offering minor band aid or diversionary changes.

And if we don't do something soon, they will win. The health care industry has donated more than \$150 million to federal candidates during the past thirteen years. Harper's Index estimates there are three health industry lobbyists for every two members of Congress. All that power is being mobilized to keep huge profit margins in our health care system.

We need to match their money power with our people power. We need to demand our elected representatives give us a health care system which:

- * Guarantees coverage to all, regardless of employment, age, health or wealth.

- * Provides for comprehensive care for every family, including long term care, preventive care and prescriptions. We should not have one health care system for the rich and another for the rest.

- * Controls costs by eliminating administrative waste and setting budgets.

- * Eliminates all financial barriers (like co-payments and deductibles) to proper health care, and is fairly financed.

- * Lets us choose our own health care providers, not the government, or the insurance companies or our employer.

Answers to us, the American people, so we can change the system if it's not working.

Bring your family, friends your coworkers to New Jersey Citizens Action's rally for national health care on Sunday, May 16th, at the State House in Trenton.

Let's tell our elected representatives, "I'll be there for you only if there are for me. I'll be there for real national health care."

Peter Shuchter
Organizing Director of
N.J. Citizen Action

PINION

As I See It...

More importantly, the union displayed a militancy that inspired confidence among members and became a unifying force that continues to exist and that has never wavered in the 25 years of Graves' tenure.

But the worse was yet to come. In 1971, NTU was forced to strike again to keep the long overdue gains won at tremendous cost.

Graves' courage, determination and leadership became a focal point of the '71 strike that lasted for eleven weeks from February until April. More than 200 Newark teachers, of all ages and colors, and all the union officers were given jail sentences for their defiance of an injunction designed to end the deadlock between NTU and Mayor Kenneth Gibson and the then Board of Education.

Once again the NTU emerged victorious: the integrity of the contract remained in tact, but teachers paid a heavy price for the victory. Several were severely injured by harsh beating, more were sentenced and jailed; and heavy fines against the NTU amounted to a half-million dollars.

Carole Graves is the only person whose NTU's victories cannot be attributed to her exclusively. She has always had a top notch team of staff members as part of a support system that has included teachers, clerks and para-professionals in the bargaining unit.

This may be, but we know Carole Graves has a lot going for herself. She was born a leader: articulate, visionary, determined, tenacious and with the courage of her conviction. It is a tribute to her personal commitment and sagacity that NTU negotiated its first contract without a strike in 1973, and since that time has been forced into several additional strikes of very short duration.

From a trade unionist point of view, NTU has been a phenomenal success in winning enviable contracts for its members, who are among the best paid teachers in the state; winning a record number of grievances for its members, in the forefront of civil rights, women's rights, political action and militancy.

From a sisterly point of view, Carole Graves has been an inspiration to all women of color, particularly those who have been part of the trade union movement in New Jersey, a field traditionally dominated by men — predominantly white men.

We seldom talk about it, but Ms. Graves had to

be a special kind of person to prevail in the anti-union, anti-female atmosphere of the early 1970s, when we were also wrestling with hostilities toward blacks of any gender.

It wasn't easy for a starry-eyed, idealistic young teacher to face the harsh realities of jail for six months, to be separated from her family and her husband, also a teacher.

She has not struggled all of the 25 years she has headed the Newark Teachers Union. As she has continued to play away and to introduce new challenges to her membership, Carole Graves has become a recognized leader in the trade union movement. She practiced what she preaches about community involvement, has encouraged other women to seek leadership in their unions and has been a pacesetter for organized social consciousness.

Carole Graves won her success the old fashioned way — she earned it. She deserves to savor the fruits of her labor.

A different kind of drug

by Samuel K. Atchison

If, as Karl Marx declared, religion is the "opiate of the masses," then certain elements on the fringes of our society have been anorexic some bad dogs.

Revisit, if you will, some of the acts perpetrated in recent weeks in the name of God:

- * In Pensacola, FL, a physician is murdered by a pro-life advocate for performing abortions.

- * Muslim inmates in Lucasville, Ohio prison demand freedom from what they feel is religious oppression as a condition for ending a prison takeover in which ten people are killed.

- * A self-proclaimed messiah in Waco, Texas leads his band of disciples to a fiery death, while steadfastly resisting the biblical command to "be subject unto the higher [i.e. governmental] powers."

(continued on page 6)

A Call to Rally

Dear Editor:

The people of New Jersey need to publicly and vocally demonstrate their support for real national health care reform. This is why:

Our health care system, plain and simple, is in a crisis of cost and access. Our current system of private insurance companies is inefficient and inadequate, yet we spend more on health care than any other nation.

Those of us who have coverage through our employers are in constant fear of job loss and reluctant to change jobs. Many employers, faced with astronomical insurance rate increases, are instituting or increasing co-payments and deductibles, or forcing employees to accept a pay increase to keep their benefits.

Rates for those who have to buy their own insurance are sky high and sky rocketing. Few can afford their own coverage. Those who buy their own insurance also face new high deductibles, which means putting off visits to doctors and other health providers as long as possible. When the

situation becomes critical, care is obtained through the emergency ward of a hospital — the most expensive way to deal with illness. Costs go up for everyone.

Many policies have limits which are easily surpassed by any chronic illness. Families with someone who needs long term care quickly learn it's not covered by most policies, unless the patient becomes poor enough to qualify for Medicaid. We can no longer afford to get sick.

Some folks have no coverage at all because their employers can't or won't afford it. Others have no coverage because they are unemployed, or just changed jobs, or are temporary or part time. And yet others are not covered for pre-existing conditions.

In an attempt to create a better system, some entrepreneurs formed health maintenance organizations (HMOs) which offer more preventive medicine in exchange for us giving up our right to choose our own health care providers. But HMO costs, co-payments and deductibles are rising

Quote of the Week

"It's time the governor and the state know the truth about what's going on in these independent authorities."

— an unidentified member of the newly-formed Coalition of Minority Employees of New Jersey Autonomous Agencies

CITY NEWS

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by Sharon Khadijah Vincent

Once again, our struggle and the issues which affect our communities the most seem to always get co-opted and pushed to the side, while other people and groups make sure that their agendas are addressed. When we look at what has happened in New York in terms of the fight around the so-called "Rainbow Curriculum" we can clearly see how this issue was on the front burner, while virtually ignored and forgotten was the need for the "Curriculum of Inclusion" which addresses correcting the lies and distortions in our educational textbooks about the history and contributions of African Americans and other historically oppressed nationalities in this country.

One of the major reasons behind the lack of support for departing New York Superintendent of Schools Joseph Fernandez from the African-American community, is because most people couldn't embrace the idea of promoting the Rainbow Curriculum in terms of acceptance for the homosexual lifestyle. Deeply felt religious beliefs (whether right or wrong), prevents many people from supporting some of the ideas, views and opinions which they feel are moral issues. A lot of community activists resented Fernandez for taking up this issue as his major fight, defining his superintendency, and not pushing hard for the Curriculum of Inclusion.

Many feel that he would have made out better had he focused on this issue first, and that he would have gained more allies.

Instead of debate around the absolute need for the racially, culturally biased and sexist curriculums to be changed in the schools, sexual lifestyles and behaviors are the hot items being discussed. While these issues are important, they are not the critical issues which have oppressed and enslaved our people and kept the African-American community economically and socially deprived. There is an increase in the resentment felt when individuals try to always link the issue of gay rights and civil rights together, and many leaders in our community need to take note of this fact.

As has been the case with the

women's movement, once a lot of white women who have gained prominence as a result of the fight for Affirmative Action have obtained what they wanted, they have ceased to be outspoken about the continued oppression being faced by African-American men and women. Many public officials are willing to speak out about increased opportunities for white women, but remain silent when it comes to fighting for equal rights for black folks. Bills pertaining to addressing civil rights issues can't even get passed the "women's issues" as the main public relations focus.

The African American community as a whole has to always wind up compromising, and taking a back seat. Some even lump our community issues and concerns under the label of special interests groups. Outrageous? Or correct? But, nevertheless, it keeps happening over and over again.

While the Christian Coalition has organized campaigns in local school districts to rally against the Rainbow Curriculum, we should not be fooled. The leadership of the Christian Coalition headed up by Pat Robertson is also opposed to the

Curriculum of Inclusion. Those African Americans who might support their stand in opposition to gay rights, shouldn't really be fooled into thinking that there is any great love for our children or our community. It would be better to promote our issues and concerns, and concentrate on that, as opposed to wasting a lot of energy and time fighting against gays and lesbians.

We have enough on our plate to keep us busy all of the time. If we would just commit ourselves to accomplishing and realizing our goals for our community we would be respected more then we are now. We shouldn't have to beg or plead for others to support us, because history has shown that we have always fought for others, more than we have done for ourselves. Let's demand that our issues and concerns are addressed now, and stop being so accommodating to everyone else's needs and desires. The need to correct the lies and distortions in our history books, and other text used to supposedly educate our children, is absolutely essential. Let's sharpen our focus, and then maybe we can finally see some progress on this front.

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YOUTH/EDUCATION/SUCCESS

KIDS Kalendar

THURSDAY, MAY 13

NEWARK DORCA: The Watershed School will hold a All American Children Fishing Derby and a Senior Fishing Derby. For information call Camp Director, Valerie James in the DORCA Office, room B-23, Newark City Hall, 201733-3940.

FRIDAY, MAY 14

PLAINFIELD-Shalin: Martialis Arts School, located at 820 Second Place is offering Kung-Fu for Kids, held every Saturday morning, Class A 11 a.m.-1 p.m. & Class B 1 p.m.-3 p.m. To attend a free class or enroll your child call 908-561-5130.

SUNDAY, MAY 16

RAHWAY-Union County Arts Center: will present Union County Arts Center performing "3 Billy Goats Bluff" at 3 p.m. Admission \$5.00, for information call 908-499-8225.

MONDAY, MAY 22

KEARNY-Essex County CYO Youth Ministries: is sponsoring a CYO Dance "Salsa Latin-American Dance" from 8 p.m. to midnight at the youth center in Kearny. Tickets \$20.00 in advance, \$25.00 at the door. For information call Della Bayona at 201-968-0602.

TUESDAY, JUNE 12

PLAINFIELD-Festival For Kids: Park Madison at West Front Street and Park Avenue. Benefit program for the Plainfield Teen Parenting Program at Plainfield High School. Free food & live entertainment, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Also Sunday, June 13, 12 noon to 5 p.m.

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'Saturday's Children' spotlights young playwrights at Crossroads

NEW BRUNSWICK: For the second year, Crossroads Theatre is helping to develop and nurture the writing of eight young playwrights from two city schools in its "Saturday's Children" program.

The project will culminate in a performance of their short plays by professional actors on Saturday, May 15 at 3 p.m. as part of the "Genesis 1993 New Play Festival: A Celebration of New Voices in African American Theatre."

"Saturday's Children" was begun last year by Crossroads as a cooperative project with the New Brunswick Housing Authority and the New Brunswick Public Schools.

Funded by a \$2,500 grant from the housing authority, the playwriting pro-

gram allows youth to explore and develop their capabilities as writers under the guidance of a professional theater artist. The participants were selected on the basis of recommendations by their principals.

Actress/educator Judy Tate has returned to teach the seventh- and eighth-grade students from the Lord Stirling and McKinley Schools about playwriting using the "Playmaking" technique. With the assistance of Morris Beasley, Jr., assistant stage manager at Crossroads, Ms. Tate is guiding the youngsters through the writing process during ten after-school workshops at Lord Stirling School.

The participants are led through exercises in improvisation, character development, understanding conflict

and themes, giving them insight into the writing process and preparing them to create their own short plays in the workshops. On Friday, May 14, the youngsters will attend a rehearsal at Crossroads, where a company of pro-

fessional actors will be preparing to present their works the next day.

The student playwrights are: Ramek Carmen, Yakima Deloatch, Rose San Diego, Rotisha James, Gerald Lambert, Marci Porch, Jason

Wilson and Carolina Zelodon.

Tickets to the "Saturday's Children" performance are \$15 each and may be purchased at the Crossroads Box Office, Torresvecchietts, call 908-249-5560.

S.c.h.o.l.a.r.s.h.i.p.s

Cong. Donald Payne: Congressman Donald Payne, a member of the House Education and Labor Committee, has announced a scholarship program to benefit full-time undergraduate students who reside in the 10th Congressional District. Funding for the \$1,000 scholarships is provided by the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation.

Applications for the scholarship will be available at four locations: the District Office of Congressman Payne, 970 Broad Street, Room 1435-B, Newark; the Irvington Board of Education, 1150 Springfield Avenue; the Office of the Mayor of Elizabeth, 50 Winfield Scott Plaza, 2nd floor; and the Union League of Hudson County, 775 Bergen Avenue, Jersey City.

Students must return completed applications to Congressman Payne's Newark Office by May 14 at 5 p.m. To qualify for the scholarship competition, students must be enrolled in a full-time, undergraduate program for academic year 1993-94 and must have maintained a "B" average to meet the minimum academic requirement.

"We have many talented young people in our com-

munity who need additional financial support to pursue a higher education," Payne said. "I encourage all qualified students in the Tenth Congressional District to apply for this scholarship funding which the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation has generously provided."

O.C.A.W. Local: O.C.A.W. Local #8-575 has announced that the union will be offering its 2nd Annual Scholarship, sponsored by Professional Dental Associates, P.A. of Clark and North Brunswick.

The Scholarship Award is in the amount of \$2,000 and is available to seniors of full-time members of Local #8-575 who have maintained at least a "C" average throughout high school.

The Scholarship will be awarded for attendance at an accredited college, junior college, or technical/trade school located within the United States.

Interested members may call the Local office at 908-382-1221, or Professional Dental Associates, P.A. at 908-574-0300 for more information and applications. The deadline for the return of all materials is June 15.

Tri-City and Quest support citywide youth talent initiative

NEWARK-Tri-CityPeoples Corporation and Quest Essex/CYO: two Newark-based organizations with a long history of establishing programs to assist neighborhoods and young people have announced their joint organizational support of a youth initiative Talent and Fashion Extravaganza to be held on Saturday, June 26 from 6 p.m. to midnight at Quest Essex/CYO, 85 Custer Avenue. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Vera B. McMillon Scholarship Fund.

All teens within the City of Newark and throughout the Essex County area are urged to come out and participate. All young people with talent in music, dance, and the performing arts in general (vocalists; actors; comedians, etc.) are welcome to audition. Call Mae Hughes at 201-372-4487 to obtain the rehearsal schedule.

The entire program of talent and fashion will be produced and co-

ordinated by youth. Teens from Tri-City's Extended Family Homes Program will take the leadership in initiating the project, and managing operational details. All young people are welcome to become involved. Various prizes will be awarded to participants.

Tri-City staffers Mae Hughes and Melissa Prince of Quest Essex/CYO agreed: "As organizations serving the community, we must come together to share our collective resources and staff expertise for the benefit of our community's youth; the youth must be given the opportunity to learn the process through which you acquire leadership and planning skills, and organizational ability. At the same time, we must provide opportunities for young people to gain greater levels of self-confidence and self-esteem by placing on public display, their talents, skills and abilities."

Payne to host arts reception

NEWARK—Tenth District Congressmen Donald Payne will host a reception on Friday, May 14 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Trappagan Promenade of the Newark Museum, 40 Washington Street.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will honor high school students who are participating in a district-wide arts competi-

tion known as "An Artistic Discovery" and sponsored by Payne.

At the reception, the Essex County participants will receive certificates of participation and the county winners will be announced. In addition, the district winner will be named and presented with a certificate.

"The arts competition is intended

to celebrate our cultural heritage and to recognize the creative spirit of our young people," Payne said. "I encourage local residents to come out and view the work of our community's talented high school students."

The winning district-wide entry will be on display at the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington for one year.

UCC summer credits go a long way.



Our colleges are miles away, but we're at Union County College earning summer credits -- credits that are accepted by hundreds of colleges and universities. Union County College has affordable tuition and summer courses in a wide range of subjects. Day and evening classes meet Monday through Thursday, so every weekend is a long one.

Whatever your plans are next fall, spend your summer at Union County College.

Classes begin May 24th.



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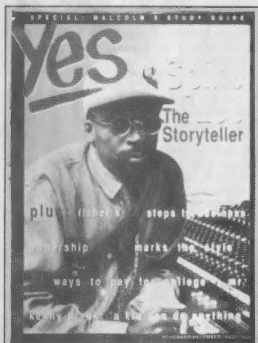
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Newark residents warned about phony water officials

NEWARK—Central Ward Councilman George Branch and East Ward Councilman Henry Martinez are warning Newark residents to be on the lookout for men who try to gain entry into homes and apartments by posing as representatives of the city water department.

Both Branch and Martinez reported calls from residents in their wards concerning men who claimed they were water inspectors and wanted to check sinks and conduct water tests. One household reported someone calling to make an appointment to inspect the premises.

In the Central Ward, the impostors gained access to an apartment building. They told tenants that they were checking for handicapped people, or those on oxygen or having respiratory problems, and explained that there would be work going on

in the street below that would produce fumes which could be a problem for them.

A call to the water department confirmed that there were no city inspectors or workers from either the water department or the Department of Land Use who were going into residences. Branch cautioned that these impostors were probably looking for elderly or weak people that they could easily overcome and rob.

Martinez thinks that the phony inspectors may be trying to get into homes all over the city. He warns, "Do not open your door for anyone who tells you he is from the water department, and do not be fooled by phony identification. Call your local precinct, or call the water department's customer service office at 201-733-3716 or 201-733-3656."

Both Councilmen suggest that anyone with

caller identification report the phone number to the police if they get any "water inspection" calls.

In the same vein, Martinez noted that the East Ward had been plagued recently by a "cat burglar" who had been entering homes through side and rear windows while residents were asleep.

"Early this week, at 4 a.m.," said Martinez, "he entered the home of off-duty Police Detective Joseph Cantalupo, who woke and took chase."

Cantalupo, with the assistance of neighbor Art Weber, apprehended one suspect several blocks from their residences on Wilson Avenue.

Apprehended was William Hall, 33, of Irvington, who has admitted to other entries in the East Ward with the same "M.O." A second suspect, the driver of the getaway-car, left the scene. His identity is known to police, and he is being sought.



Pictured at the Redication Ceremony of The First Occupational Center of New Jersey are (l-r) Joseph H. Newman, Chairman of the Board, OCNA; Stephanie Burt, Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey; Patricia Cooper, State Employment and Training Commission Work Group on Persons with Disabilities; and Rocco J. Meola, President and C.E.O., OCNA.

NatWest workbook teaches 7th and 8th graders responsible money management

JERSEY CITY - "How can I buy a \$12 tape when my allowance is only \$5 a week?"

"My baby-sitting job pays \$20, but there never seems to be anything left over to save toward a Mother's Day present."

"Why should I bother to open a bank account when I can save money in a dresser drawer?"

Adolescents face money management dilemmas that are not very dif-

ferent from those they will have as adults. That's why, as a service to the schools in its community, National Westminster Bancorp has produced a 20-page workbook on the basics of personal money management for 7th and 8th grade students.

A supply of these workbooks, called "Managing Your Own Money," was sent this week to mathematics supervisors at more than 700 junior high schools in the State of New

Jersey. New York City, Long Island and Westchester County.

"At NatWest we think the private sector has an obligation to provide much-needed support to our public schools, particularly in these times of tight budgets," says NatWest Chairman John Tugwell. "In discussions with teachers, they expressed a need for this kind of material. NatWest stepped in to provide it."

Through in-class projects and

homework assignments, young teenagers can learn the basics of budgeting, saving and credit. For example, students are urged to develop a simple budget to learn financial discipline and keep track of spending. They discover, through the experiences of Benjamin Franklin, how earning compound interest can bring big rewards on savings.

Also, they explore ways to deter-

(continued on page 10)

Concert to benefit Newark youth

NEWARK—Bethany Baptist Church will host a benefit concert to support Christian and academic excellence for Newark youth on Friday, June 4 at 7:30 p.m. at the church, 275 Market Street. The concert, titled "Let the Hallelujahs Roll!", will feature the Slade Sisters.

The concert will support projects which will enrich both the spiritual and cultural lives of these youth. The projects are as follows:

- Building an elementary school in Newark. This school will be the first Black Baptist School in Newark. It will be designed to provide youth with a

wholesome Christian foundation and academic excellence.

- Sponsoring youth to Zimbabwe in August 1993 to The World Youth Conference. For the past 12 years hundreds of children from all over the world fellowship together and focus on spiritual training and cultural education.

- Sponsoring youth to San Jose, CA to the American Baptist Convention for Inaugurating Bible study and great music with a diverse group of members from around the country.

Bethany Baptist Church whose congregation is led by Rev. James A. Scott, is a spiritually progressive church, with a focus on the growth of youth and education. Bethany offers pre-school, Boy and Girl Scouts, a youth program each month, youth church—where young people have an opportunity to discuss current events, youth issues and Christianity—and prison ministry, visiting young people who are incarcerated.

Such is the essence of the Christian message. But until we in the church are willing to appropriate this message in faith and practice, the lure of tainted narcotics will prove too tempting for many to resist.

who fail to see their reflection in God's image are destined to remake Him in their own image. Thus, depending on one's orientation, God is deemed to be either blind or gay.

God, however, is none of these things. The scripture says that "God is Spirit," and they that worship Him must do so as they are led by His Spirit and in accordance with divine truth. Hence, though God is standard of righteousness does not change. He is ready to receive all who trust Christ to meet that standard.

— how pure is the product we sell? Why is it, for example, that the traditional church often fails to address needs that the Jim Joneses and David Koreshes of the world are only too happy to satisfy? Why are the Five Percenters, a spin-off of the Nation of Islam, willing to make a larger investment in inner-city youth than many black congregations? Why do many churches have a dimmer view of the role of women than did the Lord?

We have a tendency in the Christian community to blame the victim. We fail to embrace our fellows as creatures created by God, and then repudiate them when they choose to worship another way.

Yet history has shown that those

A different kind of drug

(continued from page 4)

• And, in the nation's capital—a move reminiscent of the mass weddings conducted by the Rev. Jim Myung Moon when he declared—a homosexual minister presides over a "Ceremony of Commitment," in which hundreds of same sex couples declare their everlasting love and commitment to one another.

What's wrong with this picture? Can anyone truly believe that such events honor a righteous God? Can an honest expression of holy writ justify such perversion? Will the future testimony of these individuals reflect the scriptural witness of the saints of old, that "God is not ashamed to be called their God?"

To be sure, each of the aforementioned events includes within itsome caveat, a rationalization which purports either to justify or at least explain the act.

For example, pro-life advocates argue that Michael Griffin, who allegedly shot Dr. David Gunn because of his abortion activities, had a history of instability and did not, in any case, represent the pro-life movement as a whole. Yet who can deny that the escalating rhetoric between advocates of abortion rights and those promoting the rights of the unborn laid the foundation for tragedy.

In Lucasville, one of the corrections officers held hostage during the prison uprising made it clear that the Muslims were responsible for keeping the hostages safe. Even so, for the prisoners to link the release of their captives with demands for prayer beads and ritual garb is to degrade the value of human life and demean the Muslim faith.

Lawyers for the Branch Dividan group are putting their own spin on the events in Waco, characterizing David Koresh as a well-meaning, if misunderstood, young man. Meanwhile, eminent biblical scholars and theologians are attempting to determine whether the term "cult" is too pejorative to describe such religious groups. When last seen, they were attempting to determine how many angels can dance on the head of a pin.

Gay rights advocates rightly argue that God's love for the individual is constant, regardless of the individual's sexual preference. Unfortunately, they also attempt to discount or explain away biblical injunctions against improper sexual behavior, whether committed by homosexuals or unmarried heterosexuals.

Yet if the spiritual anomalies of the past few weeks reflect a contaminated religious narcotic, what of the product being promoted by the established orthodoxy? We who claim to be purveyors of the real truth—time-tested, accepted and approved

GRAND Re-OPENING

Plainfield McDonald's




West Front Street

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- Thursday, May 13**
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In the "Karaoke Corner"
- Friday, May 14**
Plainfield High School Day
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Tape With student ID Limit 1 per student
- Sunday, May 16**
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8 or Coffee - 25 cents All day Every Day
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5 to 6 p.m.
- Monday, May 17**
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

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Billboard

FRIDAY, MAY 14 THRU 16

NEW YORK: Ancestral Beads presents A One Man Presentation of Beadworks Fri at 12 pm to 7 pm, Sat & Sun at 12 pm to 8 pm. Location: 19 Murray St. Between Broadway & Church St. For further information call: (212) 962-5024.

THRU JUNE 13

NEW YORK: The Blue Note Bar & Restaurant presents a Spring Vocal Festival week I will feature Diane Schuur, week 2 will feature Dianne Reeves, week 3 will feature Nancy Wilson, week 4 (June 1-6) Chaka Khan and week 5 (June 13-16) Joe Williams. All showtimes are 9p.m. and 11:30p.m. The Blue Note is located at 131 West 3rd Street, NYC. For reservations call 212-475-8992.

THURSDAY MAY 13

MONTCLAIR: The Montclair Art Museum and The Montclair Crossing Academy will present an evening of jazz at 7:30 pm. Performing will be Kimberly Post. For further information, please contact the Events Department at the Museum at (201) 746-5555, ext. 17.

FRIDAY, MAY 14

SAYREVILLE: Club Bona Dinner Theatre & Banquet Center presents Ronnie Laws will perform in concert for one night only at 8:00 p.m. Dinner is optional served at 7:00 p.m. Price for show only \$17.50 and dinner with show is \$27.50. For information and to reserve your evening with Ronnie Laws call 908-727-3000. Club Bona is located on Rt. 35 in Sayreville.

SUNDAY, MAY 16

MILLBURN: New Jersey Historical Society presents a performance of "My Fair Lady" at the Mill Playhouse in Millburn at 3 pm. For further information call (201) 463-3636.

SUNDAY, MAY 23 THRU MAY 30

BROOKLYN: BAM Dance Africa 93 celebrates its "Sweet Sixteen" Birthday. The ceremony will feature more than twenty dance companies and more than 100 performers, including the kick-off with 52 Motorcycles Motorcade from Harlem to Brooklyn. For ticket information call 718-636-4100.

Sterling Creations presents spring show and sale

PLAINFIELD: With the emergence of spring, jewelry is a popular gift. Sterling Creations unleashes its spring collection of gift items, decorative accessories and artwork in its 9th Annual Spring Show and Sale. At a time when people are recovering from the long and mundane winter months, Sterling Creations offers a refreshing spring experience on Saturday and Sunday, May 15 and 16 from 1 to 6 p.m. each day.

Sterling Creations is a multifaceted art gallery which specializes in ethnic gift items. Items that include collectible dolls, limited edition figurines, sculpture and decorative accessories. Housed in an exquisite Queen Anne Victorian structure, 731 W. 8th Street, the gallery embodies a feeling of unadulterated sophistication.

Each year Sterling Creations tries to approach its shows with different flavors, periodically featuring a particular artist or artists, or highlighting a certain product.

One of the products that will be

introduced is decorative crystal for Sterling's African-American bridal registry. The bridal registry is dedicated to the wedding couple with a desire to bring Afrocentric products into their lifestyles.

Mrs. Junia White, founder and proprietress of the gallery notes, "We started the bridal registry two years ago to offer betrothed couples a stylish and unusual assortment of gifts specifically for the African-American home."

With that constant philosophy in mind, the bridal registry grew into a gift registry as well. The gallery allows its walls entirely to ethnic artwork, but, for those less inclined to venture into that line, Sterling offers corporate America an outlet. The staff goes to the offices of prospective clients with works either selected by the client or by Sterling Creations. They coordinate artwork with the decor of the office. Each client is worked with on a personalized basis to ensure total satisfaction.

For more information regarding Sterling Creations or the Spring show,

contact Sterling White or Junia White at 908-668-7725.

CITY LIFE

Time Life to publish 'African Americans: Voices of Triumph'

ALEXANDRIA, VA—Time Life Inc., a division of Time Warner headquartered in Alexandria, Va., has announced the publication of "African Americans: Voices of Triumph," a richly illustrated three-volume historical survey of the African-American men and women who have shaped our society.

"Voices of Triumph" marks the inaugural foray into the multicultural market for Time Life Inc. Volumes are slated for publication at six-month intervals, with Volume One, "Perseverance," on sale in bookstores nationwide in September. Time Warner Inc. is donating the three-volume set to every public secondary school and primary-branch public library in the nation.

Dr. Henry Louis Gates, chair of Harvard's Afro-American Studies Department, is the Senior Editorial Advisor for "Voices of Triumph." The other members of the advisory board are:

Dr. Maya Angelou, Inaugural poet, author and professor; The Reverend Calvin O. Butts, pastor of Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York; Mr. William H. Gray II, president of the United Negro College Fund and former Congressman from Philadelphia; Dr. Dorothy Height, President of the National Council of Negro Women; Dr. Ruth Love, Educational Consultant and former Superintendent of Public Schools for the Cities of Chicago and Oakland; Mr. Gordon Parks, prize-winning photographer for Life magazine, author and filmmaker; The Reverend Dr.

DeForest Soaries, Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens in Somerset, N.J.

John Fahey, CEO of Time Life said, "While some African-American history titles have had an academic focus, 'Voices of Triumph' offers a panoramic overview of African Americans, full of vivid detail, rare photographs, and fresh perspectives that will appeal to all generations."

Four years in development, "Voices of Triumph" was the brainchild of three African-American Time Life employees: series co-directors Roxie France-Nuriddin and Myrna Traylor-Henderson, and series design director, Cynthia Richardson.

Volume One, "Perseverance," chronicles the vital role African Americans have played in American society, from the slavery era to the impact of the civil rights movement. Available in 1994, Volume Two, "Leadership," focuses on two-hundred and fifty years of achievement by African Americans in business, science, education, religion and politics. "Creative Fire," the third volume in the series, showcases African-American accomplishment in such areas as film and theatre, the visual arts, literature and music.

Drawing from the nation's foremost archives of African-American history, "Voices of Triumph" weaves a richly textured portrait of the African-American experience, with rare photographs, archival material, exclusively commissioned artwork, and unparalleled research.

Readers will discover fascinating characters like "Stagecoach" Mary Fields, the cigar-smoking former slave who delivered the U.S. mail in Montana; and personalities such as physicist George Caruthers, who designed

the Far-Ultraviolet Camera/Spectrograph aboard Apollo 17 that was placed on the lunar surface in 1972. Also, the series showcases rare documents such as the turn-of-the-century photographs of survivors of the Wanderer, one of the

last illegal slave ships, that arrived in the United States in 1858.

"Voices of Triumph" is a publication of Time Life Custom Publishing, which publishes, markets, and distributes wherever books are sold.

Jazz luminaries perform in 'Jersey Jams' benefit concert

BLOOMFIELD: Veteran jazz legends and their younger counterparts will share the stage on Saturday, June 5, when Bloomfield College and the New Jersey Chamber Music Society present "Jersey Jams - An All-Star Jazz Concert."

Featuring pianist Dorothy Donegan, trumpeter "Doc" Cheatham, bassist Milton Hinton, pianist Renee Rosnes, drummer Marvin "Smitty" Smith, trombonist Steve Ture and trumpeter Jon Faddis as musical director, this extraordinary musical event will be held at the Christ Episcopal Church, located at Bloomfield and Park Avenues in Glen Ridge, beginning at 7 p.m.

Benefit proceeds will directly assist the College and the Chamber Music Society, whose continued achievements help meet the educational and artistic needs of New Jersey.

According to Jon Faddis, musical director of the Carnegie Hall Jazz Band in New York, Jersey Jams will take the form of an improvisatory session.

"All of the artists are very enthusiastic about playing together," he commented. "The concert's format will allow the musicians to demonstrate their great spontaneity, virtuosity and energy that will no doubt electrify the audience."

All of the artists participating in Jersey Jams possess exceptional talent and creative visions, and have mastered a staggering repertoire that covers classic blues, bebop, classical music, jazz standards, Afro-Cuban music and experimental jazz.

The artists also share a passionate commitment to music education and have worked extensively with younger musicians, conducting master classes and workshops around the country and giving private instruction. Their interest in passing along the legacy of this original American art form corresponds to the efforts of the College and the Chamber Music Society, who place high value on the arts and arts education and provide programs and services that celebrate the rich racial and ethnic mix of their communities.

Tickets for Jersey Jams are now available for purchase. Benefactor tickets cost \$150 and include preferred seating at the concert, a program, and dinner at the home of a dinner committee host/hostess. Patron tickets cost \$60 and include preferred seating and a program. General admission is \$25, with a limited number of \$5 student tickets.

To order tickets or receive more information about this unforgettable evening of jazz, call 201-746-4074.

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CITY BUSINESS

Business Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

EDISON Landmark Resources presents seminar on Tax Free Exchanges to unravel the myths of IRS Code Section 1031. Meeting in Saddlebrook and on May 25, Marriott at Newark Airport, 5:40-7:00, at \$200. For reservations call 908-248-2400.

BROOKLYN-ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) will present a Seminar "Equal Opportunities For All" from 10a.m. to 2p.m. at the Brooklyn Union Gas, One Metrotech Center, admission is free, for more information call 718-803-3782 ext. 22.

TUESDAY, MAY 18

NEW YORK-New York City's Minority Business Breakfast for Small, Minority, Women Entrepreneurs from 9:00a.m. to 10:00a.m. at the Star's Veranda Restaurant, 316 Broadway, \$10.00 fee plus entry, for information call 212-264-1234.

THURSDAY, MAY 20

TRENTON—Mercer County Community College's Small Business Development Center will offer a 1 session course entitled "Focused on Selling," covering many of the special techniques required to increase sales. Pre-registration is requested, call (609) 596-9446 for information.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2-3

NEW YORK CITY—The NYNJA Minority Purchasing Council will sponsor an Opportunity Fair at the Sheraton Manhattan. For more information call 212-522-7632.

New marketing approach for Newark targets realtors throughout the region

NEWARK-Renaissance Newark, Inc. (RNI) and its affiliate, the Newark Developers Alliance, recently hosted a reception attended by 30 real estate brokers as part of the "RNI's A Sharper Newark Campaign" marketing program for the City. The brokers were targeted as part of an overall strategy by the Newark Developers Alliance to aggressively market Newark's assets as a prime commercial location.

The Real Estate Brokers in attendance represented firms from throughout the State and New York City. The program included a video about recent development in Newark featuring the advantages of a Newark business location. Adding to the list of incentives was Steve Kukan, Manager of Area Development for PSE&G, who outlined a host of incentives available to anyone choosing to locate in Newark.

Brokers were impressed with the fact that Newark's vacancy rate for Class A commercial space is 10%. Kukan noted that over 2 million square feet of new space has been added in the past 4 years.

Transactions with which brokers were involved amounted to 60% of the total, with the remainder directly negotiated. If brokers had participated in those transactions, commissions would have amounted to \$1.5 million.

RNI President Everett Shaw, who brought

the City's major developers together to form the Developers Alliance, described their marketing effort as unique.

Shaw noted, "We are particularly proud of this accomplishment. I know of no other instance in the region, and indeed the nation, where a cooperative effort of this nature has been launched by developers with competing interests for tenants."

Shaw also noted that the environment is extremely pro-development, and that incentive packages can be tailored to meet any need. According to Jim Servadei, Chairman of the Newark Developers Alliance and Vice President for Bellenead Development Corporation, the production of the package was also a cooperative effort of the group.

"Since this was a package everyone marketing the City should use, we all had input into its content," he said. "Collectively, we are gearing our efforts toward major corporate site decision makers. We have found the more apparent Newark's assets become to them, the more likely they will be to think about relocations and expansions in the City."

Servadei added that the needs of businesses already in Newark are also being addressed in the group's marketing efforts.

Shaw described the program as the first

attempt by the City to market itself aggressively into the northeast region. He cites \$6 billion in private investment in the City over the past six years as evidence of investors' confidence in the City.

"We have exhibited a continuous growth pattern while development activity has come to a standstill elsewhere," Shaw said. "There are now investment opportunities in the neighborhoods as well as in the central business district. People who come to the City are impressed with what they see and we are able to demonstrate that we have a saleable product."

Developer Alliance member Stephen

and long term."

Kukan added that the construction of a new rail system connecting Newark and New York International Airport will open up untold development opportunities in the next decade along the 8 mile corridor of the system.

The marketing reception is part of a larger effort known as RNI's A Sharper Newark Campaign. The campaign has as its centerpiece a promotional package consisting of a color pictorial representation of the City, a map and an informational piece citing statistics about doing business in the City.

New York/New Jersey Minority Purchasing Council Inc.

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Chemical offers money-saving option to homeowners

EAST BRUNSWICK-Chemical Bank New Jersey has announced that it will offer low- and moderate-income homeowners throughout New Jersey a new Affordable Refinance Mortgage. This unique program offers a simple, low-cost way for families to benefit from the money-saving opportunities available in the current low interest rate environment.

New Jersey Banking Commissioner Jeff Connor attended the briefing held to announce the program to the press and community groups statewide.

Connor stated, "Chemical Bank New Jersey has set the pace and is taking the lead in forging opportunities for affordable homeownership. This effort demonstrates the continuing importance of public/private partnerships in promoting com-

munity reinvestment alternatives that have not previously existed."

This new program is the only mortgage option of this type currently available in New Jersey.

The Affordable Refinance Mortgage offers below-market rates and relaxed credit qualifications. The Bank does not require Private Mortgage Insurance and does not charge points or origination fees. The only fee is a low \$250 application fee. Homeowners may borrow \$15,000 or more for terms of 15 or 30 years.

Chemical Bank New Jersey's community revitalization efforts include a commitment to providing banking services to all New Jersey residents.

For specific details and rate information, please call Chemical Bank New Jersey's Mortgage Department at 609-520-3502.



Pictured (l-r): Fran Lawton, United Pasasac Organizations; Jeff Connor, New Jersey Commissioner of Banking; Neil Hall, Executive Vice President of Consumer Banking for Chemical Bank; and Preston Pinkett, III, Senior Vice President of Government Relations for Chemical Bank, discuss the money-saving benefits of Chemical's new Affordable Refinance Mortgage.

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Sportlight

by R.L. Greene

NEW YORK—Keith Dambrot's crime is being white.

Dambrot was the basketball coach at Central Michigan University until he "told black" to his predominantly black team following a game this past season. It was to be his downfall.

After they lost a game in November, Dambrot exhorted his team by telling his charges, "I wish we had more niggers on this team." He also said, "Mike's a nigger," referring to his assistant coach, Derrick McDowell.

Dambrot's troubles began when the campus newspaper reported he had used the word "nigger." School officials, quick to demonstrate how tough they are, immediately suspended the coach for four days without pay. But outraged students, faculty and alumni forced the school to fire Dambrot.

To the coach's rescue has come his basketball team all but three of whom are black. Ten of the players have joined Dambrot's lawsuit against the university in a bid to keep his job. All ten are black.

Daniel West, a CMU sophomore, defended Dambrot's use of the word "nigger."

"He was saying it like 'be tough,' in a positive way," West explained. "He wasn't saying anything negative toward black people."

Into this fray has charged the Rev. Jesse Jackson and his Rainbow Coalition. Central Michigan interim president Leonard Plachta met with Jackson to discuss the Dambrot incident and broader racial issues at Central Michigan. Both Plachta and Jackson admit being confused when the black players stood up for their coach.

"All the people who said he should be fired, they weren't there when he said it," said freshman guard Keith Gilmore, another of the black players who joined in the lawsuit. "They don't understand the situation. It was a bad choice of words, but you had to be there to understand it."

Gilmore admits he and his black teammates regularly use the word "nigger."

"I can understand people who say you shouldn't use it, but it's like a habit now," Gilmore said. "I probably should stop doing it, but it's become part of the language."

At the crux of the matter is out there now for everyone to see. You don't have to be on Central Michigan University's campus to hear the word "nigger" being banded about in jest, in fellowship, in just regular language by blacks. You can hear it on any street in any major city in the United States. Blacks, especially young blacks, liberally sprinkle the term throughout almost every sentence. Or at least it seems that way.

But don't let a white use the same word. Then, no longer is it a term of

endearment. It becomes a threatening gesture, a reason to charge discrimination, a basis for going to court or, even worse, jail.

At Central Michigan, at least on the basketball team there, the word "nigger" was used to connote toughness and tenacity.

This columnist thinks it connotes stupidity, especially by those who use it, black or white.

Hate groups and despicable people have come up with derogatory terms for every racial, ethnic and religious group in not only America, but around the world. And, as far as this writer knows, those terms may be used as words of endearment by members of those groups.

But if they are, they are kept strictly within the group and not banded around as a badge of honor.

Until we as a people decide to follow comedian Richard Pryor and strike the word "nigger" from our vocabulary, it will continue to be a source of friction when someone who is not black uses the term.

The Rainbow Coalition, using Dambrot's use of the word as a reason to get involved at Central Michigan, is calling for more black students at the university. It should be calling for blacks to curb their own vocabulary.

Separate municipal wards from city school districts

(continued from page 1)

Rice also noted that creating a separate school district in the West Ward would save tax payers money.

"Many West Ward residents pay what might be considered 'double taxes.' They pay the City of Newark high property taxes to support a failing school system and at the same time, spend \$4,000 to \$12,000 a year for tuition to send their kids to private schools," he explained. "It is unconscionable that our residents have to make this financial sacrifice in order for their children to get a quality education that will enable them to compete successfully in the marketplace."

"I think we're not unlike any other urban school district in the U.S.," explains Campbell. "We have our problems and we're doing what we can to solve them."

Rice said that he doesn't have all of the answers to making Newark's schools better and assuring quality education for its children; but he believes that his proposal will help make for a better school district for the children, taxpayers and residents.

"My proposal has been opposed by a handful of elected and appointed officials, special interest individuals and groups within the city for their own selfish political or economic gains with no serious concern about the future of our children," said Rice. "The majority of the teachers in the Newark Schools are very capable of educating our children and providing services; but they cannot function at their maximum with the barriers of politics, greed and selfishness on the part of a select few."

Campbell said that the Senator has never complained nor has he discussed his feelings about the system with the superintendent. He also said that he believes that the Senator's actions may be retaliation against certain board members and other people within the system, with whom he has had disagreements.

"He indicated that he'd seen marked improvement in the school system," Campbell said. "I heard him say he had some problems with school."

Campbell said that Rice's bill proposal is a "subterfuge," and that, by using his position to retaliate against people who disagree with him,

the Senator is being unfair to the City as a whole.

"I think that if they came together to talk about their problems, they may be able to resolve them in a different way," Campbell said.

The Senator was unavailable for comment on the superintendent's accusation.

However, Senator Rice said, "Those who would mislead and continue to misinform the public think that the same public isn't aware of what is really happening in our present school system. They are wrong, and I stand to debate them at any time they are willing. They must, however, understand that I will name names and present documented situations to prove my point in debate."

"The elected leaders of the city must take a stand—even, if need be, against friends, relatives and colleagues whom we know are part of the problems that are plaguing our school system. We must hold people accountable or remove them from decision making positions of power for the sake of our children and the taxpayers."

Plainfield offers a curbside bulky waste pickup

PLAINFIELD—Mayor Harold Mitchell underscores Plainfield's Spring Clean Up Month by proposing plans for prepaid, bulky waste pickup as he outlines an administrative program for a total garbage management initiative being developed for the City.

Mitchell said, "this is the first pickup our citizens have had since before 1985, and although we had originally hoped to give this service at no charge to our residents, I am still pleased to be able to provide this long awaited and much needed service."

Program details developed by the Department of Public Works calls for payment of a sign-up fee of \$70 per household for curbside pickup and disposal for up to 750 pounds of acceptable bulky waste debris. The program is limited to residential households of one, two and three family units.

The fee will cover program cost and must be prepaid in advance at time of sign-up. Interested residents may sign-up during a three week registration to begin May 17. Program information leaflets will be released this week and other public announcements will be made. The actual pickup is scheduled by city section to begin in August.

The Mayor advised, "This is not an isolated project, but only the first of several initiatives we have planned to improve waste disposal services for our residents. We are upgrading our recycling services program, upgrading our transfer station facility, and we are providing alternatives for providing reduced cost and efficient household garbage collection services this year that will include an annual curbside bulky waste pickup."

David Ervin, Director of the Department of Public Works and Urban Development, added, "There are several short term and long term initiatives being pursued simultaneously, but even a limited bulky waste disposal program is an important first step in solving the City's garbage problem."

The installation of the weigh scale at Rock Avenue should be complete by August, and once other facility improvements, which are currently under design review, are completed, the facility will be made available for alternative bulk disposal for residents.

"We know there is a lot of built-up debris in our residents' basements, garages and attic. A lot of that debris is being illegally dumped in our streets and other areas and it is straining our financial resources and manpower to dispose of it," Mitchell concluded. "This pickup represents the first part of a comprehensive plan being developed to establish and implement a long term solution to the problem of solid waste disposal for Plainfield residents."

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(continued from page 6)
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